

League universities and the fashionable elite who buy \$82,000 Teslas.

There is even a new civilian climate corps, presumably filled with officious little climate pioneers ever eager to report whose chimney is smoking, who is watering the lawn on the wrong day, and who is spreading forbidden climate disinformation.

It is easy to make fun of all this until you realize this is about to become law. America, for God's sake, wake up. Our country is on the precipice.

I have just one question for my Democratic colleagues: What makes you think socialism will work any better here than everywhere else it has been tried?

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF CORPORAL HUNTER LOPEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Corps Corporal Hunter Lopez, my constituent, who was killed in action on August 26, 2021, while serving our Nation in Afghanistan.

Today, I humbly rise to honor his memory in the hope that Americans across the country and future generations will come to know his story.

Corporal Lopez was a selfless young man with an infectious smile who truly lived his life with a larger purpose in mind. That purpose was serving our country and contributing to something greater than himself.

He was born in Palm Springs, California, on January 15, 1999. Growing up in Indio, he possessed a passion for service from a young age. His parents, Herman and Alicia, both public servants with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, instilled in him the courage, kindness, and resolve that led him to join the Marine Corps.

Corporal Lopez was a history buff, an ambitious student, and an avid Star Wars fan with an affinity for quizzing his friends and family on the movie series' trivia.

He was also incredibly thoughtful. He was the kind of person who would take the time, while serving overseas, to write letters to his grandparents in their native Spanish, despite not being fluent himself, just because he knew they would appreciate it.

Corporal Lopez always strived for excellence, and his determination to succeed motivated his friends and those around him to reach their full potential.

After graduating from La Quinta High School and achieving the rank of captain as an Explorer Scout with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Corporal Lopez joined the Marine Corps, where he served for 4 years.

His first 3 years were with the Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team Company A, 5th Platoon, before he joined the 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Division, Golf Company, 1st Platoon, 3rd Squad.

It was with the 2nd Battalion that Corporal Lopez served in Operation Allies Refuge, contributing to the largest airlift in history and aiding the evacuation of over 120,000 of our fellow Americans, allies, and Afghan partners, a truly heroic and historic effort.

On August 26, 2021, Corporal Lopez was stationed at the airport in Kabul. That day, under the blazing sun, Corporal Lopez and his fellow marines worked tirelessly to evacuate the thousands of women, children, and families who came to the airport desperately seeking safety, protection, and refuge.

Striving to bring calm to a panicked crowd, Corporal Lopez put the safety of others above his own. As the crowd grew more intense, Corporal Lopez and his fellow marine, Sergeant David Traylor, spotted two young girls, trapped under the weight of a fleeing crowd, about to be crushed.

The two marines successfully pulled the children to safety, saving their lives. They gave each other a fist bump, a very small celebration for an incredible task that they had just achieved. And then the explosion happened.

That day, Corporal Lopez gave his life to save the lives of others. I can't think of anything—anything—more noble than that.

Corporal Lopez saved two lives at the Kabul airport, and because of him, two children now have a future and the promise of a new life, many others reached safety, and many others have a reason to hope.

We lost Corporal Lopez and 12 other servicemembers on August 26. Each and every day since then, the Lopez family and the families of all our Nation's fallen heroes continue to feel their loss. They feel the loss of a loved one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation, and they feel the loss of a hero who died serving a purpose larger than themselves.

To the Lopez family, parents, Herman and Alicia; sister, Trinity; and brother, Owen: You are in our constant prayers, and our entire Nation grieves your loss, stands with you, and supports you.

We will continue to tell the story of Hunter's remarkable service, compassion, strength, and valor so that his legacy will live on for generations to come.

#### HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY OF CORPORAL HUNTER LOPEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, to my colleague, my Democrat colleague: From west Texas, our heartfelt condolences to Corporal Lopez and his family for that ultimate sacrifice.

I am about to really launch into the debate over the tax-and-spend bill, but we stand united for our troops and for those who are willing to give up their

tomorrow, or their today, so that we can have a future in this country.

God bless the Lopez family, and I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

#### CONGRATULATING WYLIE LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a few outstanding members of the next generation of west Texans.

The Wylie Little League baseball team from Abilene, Texas, represented not only District 19 well but the whole State of Texas in the Little League World Series there in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

This team knows what it is like to compete in true west Texas fashion. The success of this team is unprecedented, winning against teams from Washington, New Jersey, and Nebraska.

To the Wylie All-Stars, their proud parents and coaches, and especially Manager Reggie Regala, west Texas is so proud of you, all of your achievements, and your outstanding representation of west Texas and Congressional District 19. Thank you.

Go All-Stars. And God bless west Texas.

#### A TAX ON EVERY AMERICAN

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, we are, as a Nation, looking down the barrel of the largest tax-and-spend proposal in the history of the United States, this while our Nation suffers from a recession and major runaway inflation on account of policies from my Democrat colleagues to sideline labor by paying people more to be on unemployment than to go to work. So you have labor sidelined, which distorted supply and demand.

You also had a bill that was \$2 trillion, with the flag of COVID relief wrapped around it, to bail out union pensions and blue States and blue cities that were broke before COVID ever hit our shores. This has created inflation, a tax on every American.

The answer from my Democrat colleagues is to tax the middle class, to chase jobs back overseas. After the tax cuts lifted 6 million people out of poverty, gave us the largest wage increase in 20 years, the largest household income increase on record, we want to tax our job creators. We want to load the working man and woman and families with lower wages, with higher cost of goods and services. That is what the tax will translate into for these folks.

This is not only the largest tax increase; it is not only the largest spending boondoggle; it is the largest redistribution of wealth, the largest expansion of government, the most radical reimagination of our government's role in the American people's lives in the history of our country. I believe that. I don't think that is hyperbole.

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What are we taxing? To make America less competitive and to put more burden on the American people? To what end? To pay for the green new

disaster, in my humble opinion, their extreme environmental policies based on the premise that we will have an apocalyptic end of the Earth in 10 or 15 years, trillions of dollars, while we cede economic leadership to the likes of China and Russia. We give them the keys to the kingdom, and we end up defaulting our energy independence, which is such an important part, not only of our economic prowess, but of our national security. We are racking up debt that is completely unsustainable.

Mr. Speaker, this bill represents \$27,000 per household on top of \$200,000 per household already of the \$28 trillion in debt. This bill will not be paid for. We continue to put a deferred tax on our grandchildren, and we rob them of their freedom and their future in this great country. All of this is because of an income inequality crisis or a climate crisis. Before, it was the COVID crisis.

Let me tell you the crises the American people are concerned about: the chaos and lawlessness at the southern border, along the border of my home State.

They are concerned about the runaway inflation and the crisis of being able to make ends meet.

They are concerned about the crisis of the debt that will be borne by their children and grandchildren.

They are concerned about the sustainability of the safety net for our seniors, Medicare and Social Security. Both are insolvent in less than 10 years, and my Democrat colleagues didn't spend a dime, not a dime, of the trillions of dollars, to make sure that wasn't the case and that we could fulfill that promise.

#### IT IS TIME TO DELIVER INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Mrs. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because, believe it or not, yet again, it is infrastructure week here.

For decades, our country has been calling for investment to bring our infrastructure into, not just the future, but at this point, the present.

For months, we have been meeting, both Democrats and Republicans, to get this bill to work for all of us. Now, it is time to take action and pass it for the American people. The stakes could not be higher.

Nevada, where I am from, has been ground zero for this pandemic. We are ground zero for the effects of climate change. But, more importantly, we are ground zero for the promise and the economic opportunities in this bill.

Roads, bridges, access to broadband, electric vehicles, electric buses, clean energy, water solutions for the West, all of this is needed and all of it will benefit my State and every corner in this country. That is why we have to

put politics aside, come together, and pass this legislation now.

I came to Congress because I was tired of the bickering and the dysfunction and the gridlock. I was tired of politics as usual.

Safer roads and bridges, these are not partisan political issues. We have the opportunity to pass these investments for every single American and create millions of good-paying jobs and strengthen our recovery and get our economy back on track. The time to deliver solutions is now.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF RAY LARSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life of a devoted public servant, Ray Larson of Lexington, Kentucky.

Ray served as assistant deputy attorney general for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, but later, for 32 years, Ray was one of the most consequential Commonwealth's attorneys in our great State's history, dedicated to our community and the rule of law.

He was an outstanding prosecutor, always laser focused on deterring crime, relentlessly pursuing justice, advocating for victims' rights, and keeping central Kentucky families safe.

Ray was an unapologetic and principled fighter, leading by example and advancing the cause of law and order. He believed in defending, not defunding, the police.

Ray was a faithful member of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, where he served as a Eucharist minister and taught high school Sunday school for over 30 years.

On a personal note, Ray was a dear friend and an important mentor to me.

Mr. Speaker, Ray Larson was a great American patriot who made a positive difference, and he will be deeply missed. God bless him and his family, and I appreciate the opportunity to pay tribute to a great American.

#### IRS FINANCIAL INSTITUTION REPORTING MANDATE

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Biden administration's proposal to mandate banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions to report the inflows and outflows of customer bank accounts to the IRS.

Think big government has too much of your personal data now? Just wait until the Biden administration and congressional Democrats require banks to submit the financial transactions of millions of Americans to the IRS.

Let me repeat that. For the Americans watching on C-SPAN right now, President Biden, as part of his massive job-killing tax increase, wants the IRS to have unfettered power to spy on your bank accounts, your deposits, your withdrawals, and your payments.

While I was pleased to see that the Ways and Means Committee did not include this provision in their bill during markup, news reports suggest there are still negotiations with the administration for its inclusion. A higher account threshold or other minor policy shifts will not solve the fundamental flaws with this proposal.

The mandatory reporting of Americans' transactions violates their privacy and puts an undue burden on financial institutions that could cripple community banks that helped get government aid to struggling small businesses during the pandemic, and it is predicated on the Biden administration's assumption that every American is somehow a tax cheat. How offensive. This is a disgusting example of Big Government overreach, and I am sounding the alarm.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to actively oppose this misguided and dangerous proposal.

#### IRRESPONSIBLE VOTE TO INCREASE THE DEBT CEILING WITHOUT FISCAL REFORMS

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the House Financial Services Committee in strong opposition to the Democrats' reckless and irresponsible vote to increase the debt ceiling without any fiscal reforms and provide a blank check for the Democrats' socialist tax and spending spree, which they intend to ram through Congress later this week or in the coming weeks.

Everybody understands we cannot default on our debt. But don't let the Democrats and their allies in the media fool you. This debt limit increase does not cover funds already spent. The ceiling suspended in 2019 accommodated 100 percent of the spending under the previous administration, including five bipartisan COVID response bills and then some.

But Democrats chose to pass, on a partisan basis, \$2 trillion in new spending, less than 10 percent of which actually responded to COVID, and that is what has brought us to this new debt limit. Republicans did not vote for that \$2 trillion, and now President Biden and Democrats want an additional \$5.5 trillion, \$4.3 trillion of which has zero Republican support. So it is Democrat partisanship that has resulted in a partisan debt limit vote.

Let's be clear. This debt limit vote enables massive amounts of new spending, not old spending. Even with the largest tax increase in American history, a tax increase that would make the tax burden on American businesses higher than in communist China, this is a bill that will add at least \$2.4 trillion to the national debt, even with all of those new historic tax increases.

And the hypocrisy of those who criticize the job-producing and revenue-producing Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, claiming that it would massively increase the deficit, where are they now? The hypocrisy is breathtaking. These are the same people who support adding trillions to the national debt.